

penetrating a second leaflet from the proximal side to the distal side with a penetrating device;

deploying at least a portion of a second anchor having a second attached suture on the distal side of the second leaflet;

securing the first suture and the second suture together.

81. (New) A method as in claim 80, wherein the anchors are disposed on the penetrating devices.

82. (New) A method as in claim 80, wherein the penetrations are located inward from a free edge of the valve leaflet.

REMARKS

By this Supplemental Amendment, Applicants add new claims 80-82. Therefore, claims 18-82 currently are pending in this application. New claims 80-82 are either identical to or substantially similar to claims 33, 34, and 36 of U.S. Application Publication No. 2002/0013571 A1, published on January 31, 2002, and assigned to EVALVE, Inc. More specifically, claim 80 is identical to claim 33 and claims 81 and 82 are substantially the same as claims 34 and 36, respectively.

Applicants previously filed an Amendment and Response to Restriction and Election of Species Requirements with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 22, 2003. Applicants submit that new claims 80-82 are not "readable on" the

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Customer No. 22,852
U.S. Application No. 09/981,790
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elected claim group and species combination. Therefore, claims 80-82 may be withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants therefore respectfully request examination of claims 18-30 and 45-79.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Supplemental Amendment and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: *Susanne T. Jones*
Susanne T. Jones
Reg. No. 44,472

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com